The Reliable Source

The Bridegroom Wore Blue

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By Ann Gerhart
Washington Post Staff Writer

Perhaps the most fam newlyweds of the mo t have set sail for even more luded islands on the former presider yacht Honey Fitz. Perhaps **John F. K nedy Jr.** and **Carolyn Bessette** have go en their wilderness camping permit an trekked even deeper into the Cumberland Island wilds, among the turtles and armadillos.

This much is now known: He wore a midnight blue suit, she wore a pearl-colored silk crepe dress with a train, and a wild pony munched the bride's bouquet while she embraced her new husband after the ceremony. They had planned the wedding for six months in one of the best covert operations of the decade.

Jacqueline Bouvier married John F. Kennedy at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Newport, R.I., and received 1,200 high-society guests. But their only son took a bride Saturday in far simpler fashion, on an unspoiled Georgia barrier island, inside the First African Baptist Church. The small fading clapboard chapel, built after the Civil War by freed slaves, was adorned with island vines and wildflowers and lit with candles for the occasion, said Melody Miller, deputy press

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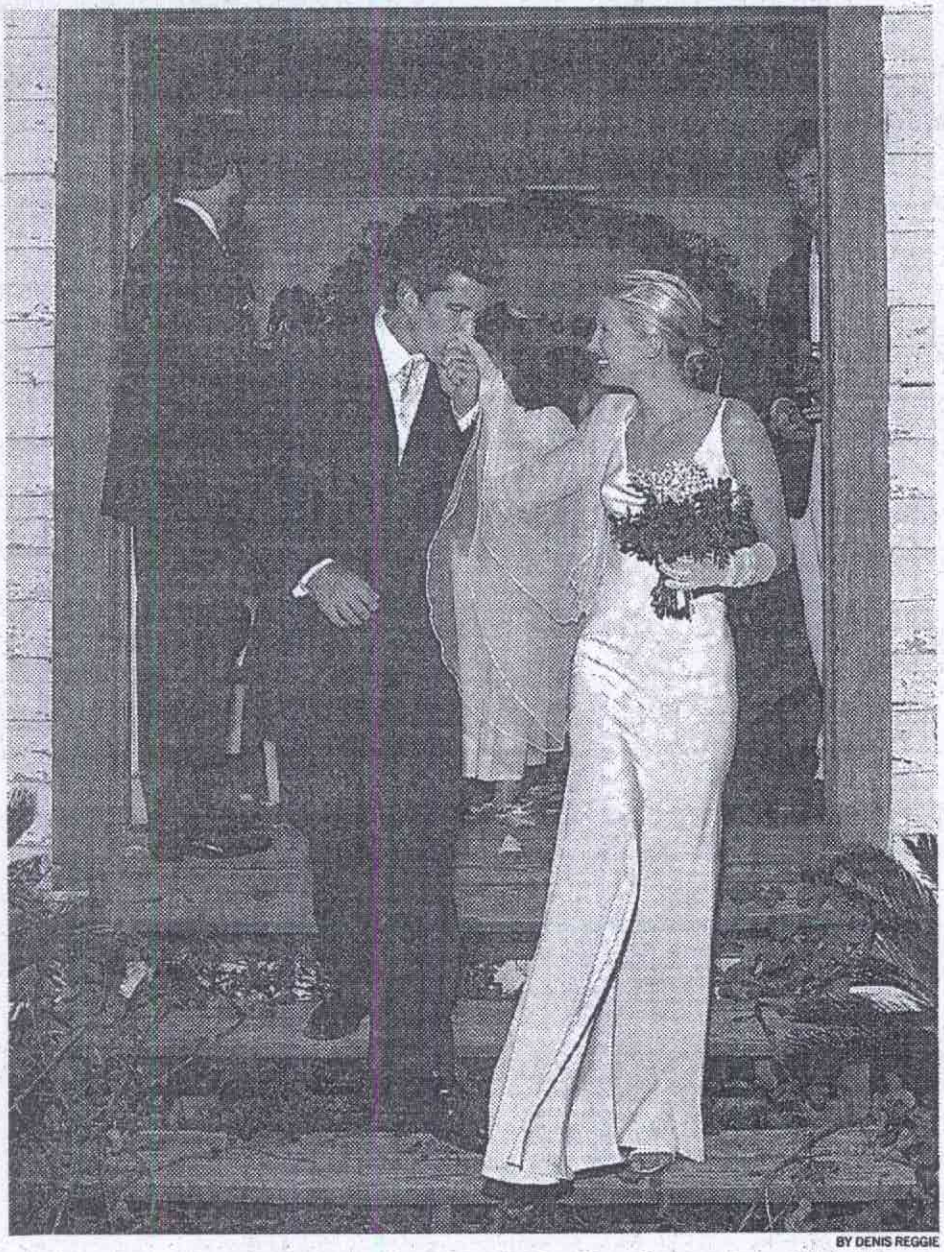

BY DENIS REGGIE

John F. Kennedy Jr. and Carolyn Bessette, dressed in a Cerruti gown, leave First African Baptist Church on Cumberland Island, Ga., after their wedding ceremony Saturday.

The Kennedy Wedding

SOURCE, From D1

secretary for **Sen. Edward Kennedy** (D-Mass.). The decorations were by **Robert Isabell**, who has created the look of tonight's SuperSale gala.

"I am the happiest man alive," John Kennedy toasted Bessette at Friday's rehearsal dinner. "It was important for us to be able to conduct this in a private, prayerful and meaningful way with the people we love," he said yesterday in a statement.

Those people included his best man, cousin **Anthony Radziwill**, and the maid of honor, **Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg**, and her daughters, Rose and Tatiana, as flower girls. Jack Schlossberg, 3, bore the couple's ring solemnly up the aisle, said Miller, then sat down, stared at Bessette and loudly demanded, "Why is Carolyn dressed up like that?" Also attending were the bride's father, William Bessette, and her mother and stepfather, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Freeman, as well as her sister, Lisa, and her brother-in-law, Michael Roman.

"This is a time of special joy for all of us in the Kennedy family. Vicki and I wish John and Carolyn great happiness," said Sen. Kennedy, the family patriarch, in a prepared statement. "I know that Jack and Jackie would be very proud of them and full of love for them as they begin their future together."

A Jesuit priest, the Rev. Charles J. O'Byrne of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City, officiated at the Roman Catholic ceremony. Baritone David Davis, a gospel singer from nearby Fernandina Beach Musical Choir, sang "Amazing Grace" and "May the Circle Be Unbroken."

When they have finished their honeymoon, the couple will return to New York. Miller said she did not know what employment plans the new Mrs. John Kennedy has made (Please. Would *you* keep your name?); she quit her job at Calvin Klein to plan the wedding.

"There will be a private family celebration when they return," said Miller, so that all of the Kennedy clan can participate. "Maybe they'll find some other secret place."

FILE PHOTO/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kennedy and Bessette earlier this year.